



IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

SUMMER issue

JULY 2015

Bark Lake Cultural Developments

Charitable No.
80487 0087 RR0001

9 member
Board of Directors

Historical
@IrondaleOntario.ca

Irondale Church for your
next function?

Rental Information Contact
Glenda 705-447-2679 or
Carol 705-457-8438

Irondale Community Centre

Advisory Committee
of
Minden Hills Council
centre@IrondaleOntario.ca

~Rentals~

Rentals for the centre or
the big tent can be booked
thru Barry Simmons
705-447-2380



**I.B.O.
GENERAL
STORE**

Carrying on the retail
tradition that began with
Peter Barr circa 1873

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
705-447-0246

PROPRIETORS
MARK & HEATHER PENMAN

A Summer greeting

On behalf of the Board and Supporters of the Bark Lake Cultural Developments, I wish to extend a Happy Summer greeting to all our seasonal and permanent residents who are blessed to call our community home. Warmer days, the return of wildlife and birdlife, gardening and property maintenance keeps us busy when not at work – the endless ‘honey-do’ list seems a perpetual task chart with no end in sight! This is why even when living or visiting cottage country, time off to smell the roses and take in some of the wonderful local events is a special treat we all enjoy and deserve.

2015 has been a remarkable year of growth for the Bark Lake Cultural Developments on many levels. Last year’s hard work and fundraising has raised our profile not only within Haliburton County, but nationally and internationally. Our newsletter mailing list is growing monthly and so are my production expenses! Fortunately technology helps but many of our recipients prefer a hard copy newsletter mailed to them. We all appreciate how expensive postage is these days. We are always appreciative of a Postage Hero, someone who can pay for the postage (total or part of) for a newsletter mailing.

All donations receive a Revenue Canada Tax Deductable charitable donation receipt and my heartfelt thanks.
Cont’d pg 2

Who Lies Beneath—a Kinmount Cemetery Walk

The weather was fantastic! George Simmons, armed with a bag of books, led interested participants around the older portion of the Kinmount Cemetery on Sat, April 25.

At each highlighted stone, George showed pictures, read small portions of text from his bag of books, illustrating the people that sleep beneath the turf.

Symbolisms, vandalism and/or weather damage, interesting stone shapes, and the use of small fencing of family plots were just some of the lively discussions.

Participants were sent home with a list of superstitions surrounding death and funerals, couple poems & the upcoming events planned.

Stay tuned —

There was talk of a walk in early November, highlighting the lives of the veterans buried here.





The rumours were true

In 1887 when our beloved Church was built by the generous philanthropy of one family and a group of hard working volunteers, it was designed to be a spiritual centre of the village of Irondale. Fast forward to Saturday night May 30th and 128 years later, a sell out crowd of over 110 persons sat inside the heritage building we affectionately call the Irondale Community Church, to experience a magical concert performed by



The Russell deCarle Trio. The lead singer of the 6 time Juno Award Winning Band Prairie Oyster, deCarle said in his opening comments of the show how wonderful the acoustics were in the building, and that since 1887 the Church has been the heart of a community and it deserves to be a place where beautiful music can be played for all. For those fortunate enough to have been there for the concert, we couldn't agree more. **See page five for information on our next concert.**

Special Thank You to Doug Rodger for 'finding' the top notch entertainment!



Winner ...

The June raffle, for a necklace donated by Luann Coghlan, was won by Marion Mandel of Minden. Marion purchased her ticket at the Victorian Tea, held June 13. Congratulations!

Canada Day Minden style!

Fred & Carol took Irondale to Minden on the morning of July 1.



Summer Greeting continued...

The Bark Lake Cultural Developments was nominated for the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce Best Non Profit Charity back in March 2015. Although we didn't win on the night, the public awareness and financial donations we have received for all our hard work has been encouraging. Now when we have an event to promote, the media are interested in giving us good coverage knowing that our countless supporters and increasing public who attend our events are putting Irondale and the Bark Lake Cultural Developments on the map beyond our County. And in some cases beyond our own country!

Local Celebrity!

Many will remember Irondale's residents, Fred & Pearl Simmons. Their granddaughter Joanna Burt, was one of those participating in the opening ceremonies of the PanAm games this month! Joanna was one of the Metis Nation of Ontario participants.



Participants at a rehearsal in the Rogers Centre on July 8 (left-right):

Joanna Burt, Liam Blore, Alicia Blore, Christine Skura and Kyle Burton.

Some of you met Joanna and Alicia at a Metis introduction workshop we hosted last year.

Joanna and Simone will be back in Irondale on August 9th at 1pm to introduce us to native dance and stories. Refreshments will be provided. Free to all to attend.

The Physical Restoration

The physical restoration of the building has begun, be it a slow process, as we are wholly reliant on the time donations of our stoic volunteers. There is an old saying, "if you want something done, ask a busy person." Our most consistent volunteers lend their time so generously, in addition to all being very busy working and with their own lives. We have begun scraping off the 1951 and subsequent layers of paint on the Church, being gentle with the century old Timbers. We provide some tools and lunch for any volunteers who could lend a few hours of their time to help us remove the paint this season. They say "Many Hands Make Light Work". I'd love to have just ONE DAY with 15+ volunteers pulling together like an Amish Barn Raising and Get It Done. Anyone interested in helping, please call or email me. We honestly need the help.

Quotes for other necessary projects are being sought out in preparation for grant applications. Once those projects are complete, we will have an updated facility. One that has addressed all the electrical, heating, insulation and accessibility issues. The hall will house museum-type displays of Irondale's interesting history.



*What's the topic around the
card table this Wednesday?
Join Us And Find Out.*

*7pm \$2 pp
Irondale Community Centre*



St. Patty's Breakfast

Many came out showing their Green. A traditional Irish breakfast was served—bangers, rashers, pudding, potatoes, soda bread and all the fixins'.

A big THANKS — to Ricky & Raquel Linton for the loan of authentic Irish pieces for the guests to admire. AND to Kurt & Linda for locating real blood pudding.

Laura Peter was the lucky winner of the Lucky Charms!



GREAT FRIENDS ...

GREAT PRIZES ...



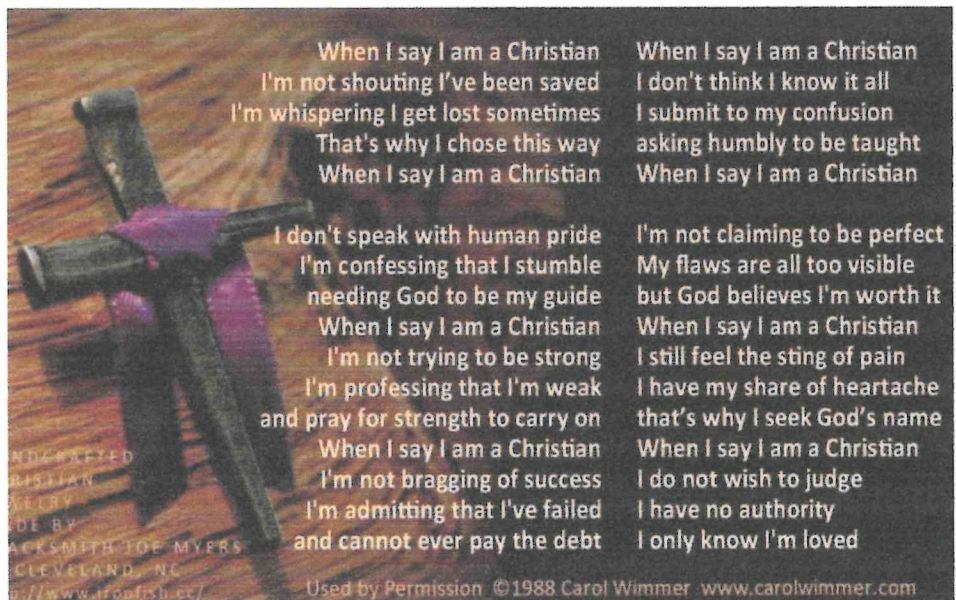
The Story Behind these Words

“My heart was heavy in 1988 as I wrote the poem, *When I say I am a Christian*. I had begun to sense increasing societal resentment within American culture toward the attitude of self-righteousness that has been adopted by so many Christians. I knew such behaviour was, and is, *a distortion of Christianity*. Thus, the sentiment of the poem was born out of my personal awareness of this distortion

and the heartache it causes in society. Tears rolled down my face as I jotted down my thoughts with an inner determination to define the Christian spirit as I wished to experience it. But, the words flowed out of me with such ease that I knew it was God’s spirit moving in my heart. I was simply holding the pen. The resulting words formed a reflection of my own beliefs and the reputation I hoped to secure for myself.

Four years later, I sent the poem to several publishers. As a result of its first publication in 1992, someone placed the poem on the Internet where it *miraculously* began taking on a life of its own. From Manila to South Africa; Australia to Singapore; Finland to Bahrain—I’ve received e-mails from people all over the world who share a common desire to walk humbly with God.”

used with permission from Carol Wimmer, www.carolwimmer.com



Another significant milestone has been reached for the Irondale Community – the new sign was installed out front of the Church, proudly announces that Sunday Services run at 10 am from May – October! The Church services are open for people of all faiths, ages and stages in life. The services promise to be very welcoming, uplifting and non judgmental. A licensed Minister is already booked to preside over Sunday sermons, weddings and even a dedication ceremony this summer! A group of interested people have formed to handle the Sunday services. Work has begun on the Irondale Community Church becoming associated with the Federation of Independent Anglican Churches of North America. I can not express enough, my heartfelt joy at our Church overcoming the challenges of the past and like a phoenix rising from the ashes, is stronger for it. If you would like to consider holding a treasured family occasion at the Church, a wedding, dedication/baptism, service of blessing, or a celebration of life, please email or call me to discuss, I will certainly pass your plans to those on the Church committee. The lawn next to the Church is ideal for a marquee. We are committed to honouring the integrity of the late Victorian architecture and restoring the Church, now a designated Heritage Site.

~ Friendly Euchre ~ Every Wednesday Night ~ 7 pm
\$2 per person ~ Refreshments offered ~ Irondale's Community Centre

LIVE IN CONCERT

JUNO AWARD WINNER & MEMBER OF BLACKIE AND THE RODEO KINGS...

Stephen Fearing

Special Guest –
Haliburton
County's own
Ryan VanLieshout

Saturday, August 29, 2015
7:30 show
Irondale's Heritage Church
1019 Elm Rd. just off County Rd. 503, Irondale
Tickets \$25 each

Request Call: 705-497-5439, online: www.irondaleontario.ca
or in person at Irondale's 150 General Store



Please mark your calendars

for the Stephen Fearing concert on Sat. Aug 29th.

Local artist Ryan Vanlieshout, will open for Stephen Fearing.

You won't want to miss this event or the Northern Gospel Choir's performance on November 28th. The 20+ voice choir has a great regional following. A fun, uplifting evening of great music and home baked refreshments will kick off the Christmas Season in earnest. This will be your last chance to hear this fine choir. They are disbanding at the end of December.

Like *Garrison Keillor's Prairie Home Companion*, we are working towards having a radio broadcast for this November concert so that our supporters and the public can tune in to hear for themselves our wonderful acoustics of the choir performing. Sponsors for the event would be gratefully appreciated.

Annual Softball Tournament

The weather was fantastic (for the most part) for the annual softball tournament on July 25 & 26. Extremely warm with very little cloud cover. Thank goodness there was a tent to stand under. Two of the games were postponed for a short time, until the massive rain storm ran its course. Not much time was lost, the games carried on.

Chris James kept the scores and posted them on the board for all to see.



The Winning Team "The Jimmy's".

The team was made up families & kids who had their lives influenced by the late Jimmy O'Neill. A team put together in order to keep Jimmy's memory & his love of baseball alive. The players in no particular order: Kitty Wood, Kim Henry, Emily Parrott, Bone Donaldson, Mandy Swinson, Jack Morrison, Carter O'Neill, Jordan Hamilton, Nimmer Nimigon, Jonny Morrison and Jake O'Neill.

Editor's note: Jimmy attended last year's tournament. He passed away Sept 3, 2014

George Simmons was the umpire, Barry and Maxine Simmons with their staff kept the food fresh and hot. Besides cold water and soft drinks there was some ice cold beverages available. Anne Marie Hancock and Jane Wilson made sure there was always cold ones available.

Congratulations to the organizers and the baseball players for another great year.

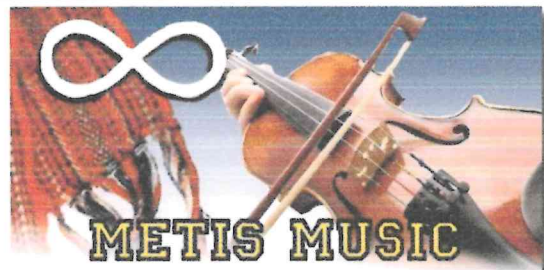


Second Place Team
"Scared Hitless"

Native Dance — Sunday, August 9 — 1pm—3pm

This low impact workshop will introduce you to traditional metis dance. You can come with a partner, or come solo to experience what social networking was before Facebook and Twitter. This workshop is open to people of all cultures who have the desire to learn about the dance of one of Canada's Aboriginal People. Refreshments served.

No Charge, all welcome



Irondale's Calendar of Events

A busy social season of functions is in the works, and I hope you will support our events and attend with family and friends if possible. For those Friends of the Bark Lake Cultural Developments and the Irondale Community Church who can't physically attend our events, we are very humbly grateful for your tax deductible financial donations at any time. Just mail me your donation with details for a Revenue Canada compliant tax deductible receipt. Our goals are, to pay off our mortgage, further restoration of the historic building, provide our community with wonderful events year round and share our history with everyone. The Irondale Community Church can once again be the heart of a broader community, encompassing our seasonal and permanent residents in our projects always.

There are too many names specifically to mention who work tirelessly behind the scenes year round to help in our efforts. I call them our Irondale Angels. Quietly plugging away at every event, from cooking to dishwashing to site preparation, clean up, marketing, deliveries, phone calls, printing, the 'honey do' list is endless! Some of their faces you may recognize, others are quiet and anonymous in their generous time donations for volunteering. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart for your generous time donations and encouragement.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| August 22 | Mine Tour, \$10 per person, meet at Irondale's Church at 1pm — comfortable walking shoes & umbrella. Rain or shine. Refreshments served after tour. More information in the summer issue of this newsletter. |
| Sept 10 to 13 | Highlands East Plein Air Arts Festival |
| October 3 | Irondale Community Centre Annual Dinner |
| October 9 }
October 10 } | Bake Sale at the I.B.O. General Store property. 10 am to 3pm — Rain or Shine
Bake Sale at the former Lucky's Gas Bar location in Kinmount. 10am to 3pm — Rain or Shine |
| October 11 | Thanksgiving Service, 7pm, Irondale's Church |
| November 28 | Join us as the North Country Choir's fabulous voices fill the Irondale Church with the songs of the Christmas Season, 7pm. This will be our Christmas Event. \$10 per person. Refreshments will be available. Tickets available at the I.B.O. General Store, online www.IrondaleOntario.ca or call/text 705-457-8438. |

Irondale Community Centre's Annual Dinner

**October 3
Gooderham Community Centre**

\$15

Doors 5pm Supper 6pm

Lots of Auction Fun!!



**Hope
To
See
You
There**

In June we hosted a Downton Abbey themed Afternoon Tea under a marquee in front of Minden's Wild Swan Bed & Breakfast on the shores of the Gull River. Many guests attended in period Edwardian Costume inspired by the famous British Television Series drama, and the tiers of wonderful gourmet finger food served was fit for The Queen herself. Next year we will host the Tea in May. Mark the event on the May page of your 2016 calendar to come join us. I guarantee we will spoil you with gourmet treats and gracious hospitality all in the name of fundraising for our charity. Check out our web site for photos of the mouthwatering treats served for this event.



As Well - We hosted a booth at the 2nd Annual Food & Beverage Showcase held at Wintergreen Pancake House in Gelert. Along with the many pictures & maps, we took souvenirs to sell. Venison chunks were served 'free gratus' to all that wanted to try it. The day was entertaining, raising funds for H.A.V.E (help a village effort) and the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

In July we had an information booth at the very first Kinmount Highland Games. Held at the Kinmount Fairgrounds, the weather was fantastic, the crowds were appreciative and the bagpipe music filled the air. We supported the games from 8 am to 4pm. Dismantled the booth and set it up again on Kinmount's Main Street to participate in the Family Street Fair — part of



Kinmount's Heritage Week festivities. Baked goods and souvenirs were sold that evening. Long rewarding day.



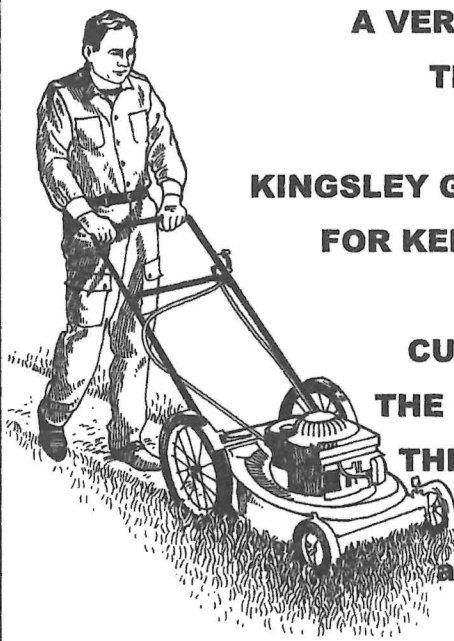
A very big THANK YOU to Wendy Kidd, Lorne & Sue Buckingham, Doug Rodger and Barbara Gordon. These people have done a fabulous job with the Community Garden this year.

It is being kept tidy and looks far more abundant than last year.

Always a danger in thanking people by name, if I missed you in the list above please accept my apologies. It is simply a case of not 'catching' you in the garden.



**A VERY SPECIAL
THANK YOU
TO
KINGSLEY GREENHAM
FOR KEEPING THE
GRASS
CUT AROUND
THE GARDEN &
THE CHURCH.
Certainly
appreciated**





Fifth Annual Wild Game Dinner Event

July 18, 2015



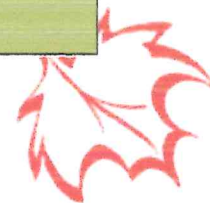
Another sell out crowd enjoyed the 14+ dishes that Fred Simmons offered the hungry bunch. There were many items on the Country Raffle tables and a dozen or so Loonie Auction items. Once dessert was served — Fred took over the job of coursing loonies out of the pockets. A bit of Duck Dynasty came to the Galway Hall— serving as Auction Assistant, Steve promoted each item with humour. Thanks Steve for a job well done! Thanks to all those that persevered until the end despite the unbearable heat! At press time, the net profit was not known



The Township of Minden Hills

**CANADA DAY
CELEBRATION**

Minden's Crazy Raft Race
Winner of the Most Original Raft Contest went to
Salerno Lake's Sherry Mossman



FINAL WORD ...

Finally, they say behind every strong woman is an even stronger man. I blush with embarrassment at the accolades I am given, working full time and then again another 40+ hours a week on behalf of the Bark Lake Cultural Developments as President. Clearly it is a labour of love and I believe with all my heart that the community deserves a heart once again in this "Church". Even though I don't live in Irondale, my heart and soul along with my car all belong to Irondale in spirit. All that I do, all my time, energy, focus and money donations I give to the 'cause', wouldn't be possible without the staunch and loving support my wonderful husband Fred Simmons gives me unconditionally. I may be the 'front man' when it comes to the Bark Lake Cultural Developments, but make no mistake, my wonderful husband is my Rock of Gibraltar and greatest inspiration of service to the community.

Thank-you, Fred Simmons, for your support.

We have been asked to circulate this letter.

Anonymous Challenge

I read the piece Gillian Brown wrote about Carol Simmons and the work BCLD are doing to preserve the Irondale history and the church. History must be kept alive for future generations. How else will they know where they came from? I was given a copy of Carol's newsletter and they mention and support events scheduled for other parts of the County, not just Irondale. This includes Haliburton, Gooderham, Kinmount, and Minden to just name a few of the bigger places in the area. I have also visited the website at www.Irondaleontario.ca to learn more about this worthwhile non profit organization. I was so moved by their dedication to the area, that I donated \$1,000.00 personally.

I challenge every one in Haliburton County and area to donate – match or better my donation.

Help them to uncover more “pieces of the puzzle”.

I have my email address down for future copies of the newsletter as I do not live in the area. Gillian Brown mentioned BLCD is more known outside of Haliburton County than within to date. Now isn't that a shame!

Gillian's nomination –

The Bark Lake Cultural Development (BCLD) is an extraordinary non profit organization founded by a dedicated group of hearty Haliburton folk who themselves exemplify the determined pioneer spirit and perseverance a small but dedicated and hard working charity can achieve. Inspired by the late Anne Roots whose ancestors helped build the Historic Irondale Anglican Church more than a century ago, when the Anglican Diocese of Ontario deemed the little pioneer church in Irondale to be deconsecrated and sold off, Anne Roots and her friends and family wouldn't hear of it. Seasonal residents and permanent residents have enjoyed services, family occasions and events at the little pioneer church for generations. Cottagers and residents alike who have emotional and cultural ties to the Bark Lake and Irondale communities banded together, formed a Board, raised the \$100,000 capitol and in litigation with the Anglican Diocese, made national headlines by incorporating a charity and buying the pioneer church from the Anglican Church. It was a tale of a back woods David and Goliath and the BLCD was born.

Incorporated in May 2012 and receiving its Charitable Status in August 2013, the mandate of the BLCD is to open the doors of the now renamed Irondale Community Church as an all denominational venue for education, events, functions, historical preservation for the greater community whilst honouring the aboriginal ties Bark Lake and Irondale communities share.

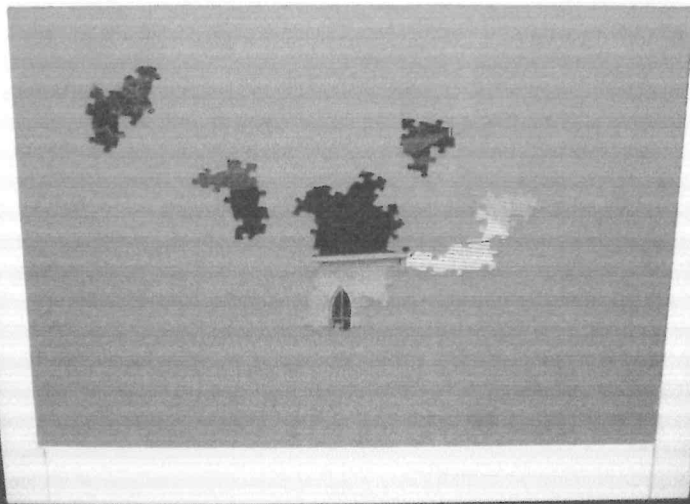
Every weekend of the calendar President Carol Simmons, supported by her Board, take the BLCD and Irondale Community Church presentation on the road for fundraising and awareness raising of the project. Carol Simmons works full time at the HHHSF. Additionally this tireless woman in her BLCD volunteer role works another 40+ hours per week for the Charity, sacrificing holidays, spare time and personal commitments for her BLCD mission. A range of diverse and open to the public events take place at the Irondale Community Church and in Kinmount and Gooderham community centres for the BLCD.

Recently the BLCD hit the international media airwaves through their participation in the 12th anniversary service in Newmarket, Ontario of the Archbishop of the Anglican Church, Reverend Dorian Baxter's Christ the King, Graceland Church which was covered by CBC and CTV news as well as live streamed to Kenya and London.

www.Irondaleontario.ca continues to garner support from cottagers, residents and generous sponsorship of local and regional supporters who wish to see the charity achieve its greater goals of community service and historical preservation within this extraordinary community. The BLCD is more known OUTSIDE of Haliburton County than within to date.

How better to raise awareness of the charity than to honour it within the very community it is dedicated to serve by bestowing this award?

**ARE YOU THE PIECE
WE ARE LOOKING FOR?**

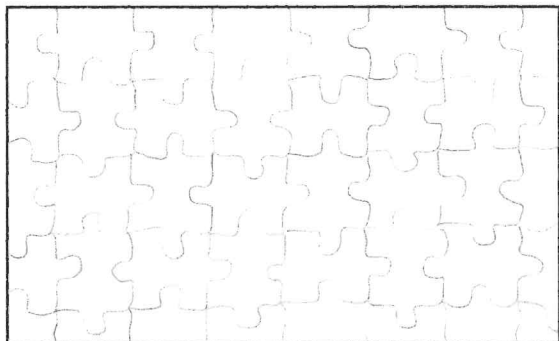


**ARE YOU
THE PIECE?**

**EVERY \$200 DONATED
REMOVES A PIECE
OF PUZZLE.**

**EXPOSE THE CHURCH
THE
MORTGAGE IS PAID**

**SINCE NOVEMBER 30, 2014 , YOU HAVE DONATED \$8,300
TOWARDS THE MORTGAGE.
THANK YOU!**



Please Donate

The Bark Lake Cultural Developments is a registered charitable organization with the Canada Revenue Agency.

You will receive an Official Tax receipt when you donate that can be used for Income Tax purposes.

Charitable Registration Number:
80487 0087 RR0001

I am a vital piece of the puzzle

Please send me a receipt for my donation of

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 or \$ _____

☐

I wish my donation to remain anonymous

Your Name

Complete Mailing Address

Phone Number

Email Address

Make your cheque payable to
Bark Lake Cultural Developments (B.L.C.D.)
and mail to P.O. Box 113, Irondale, ON, K0M 1X0